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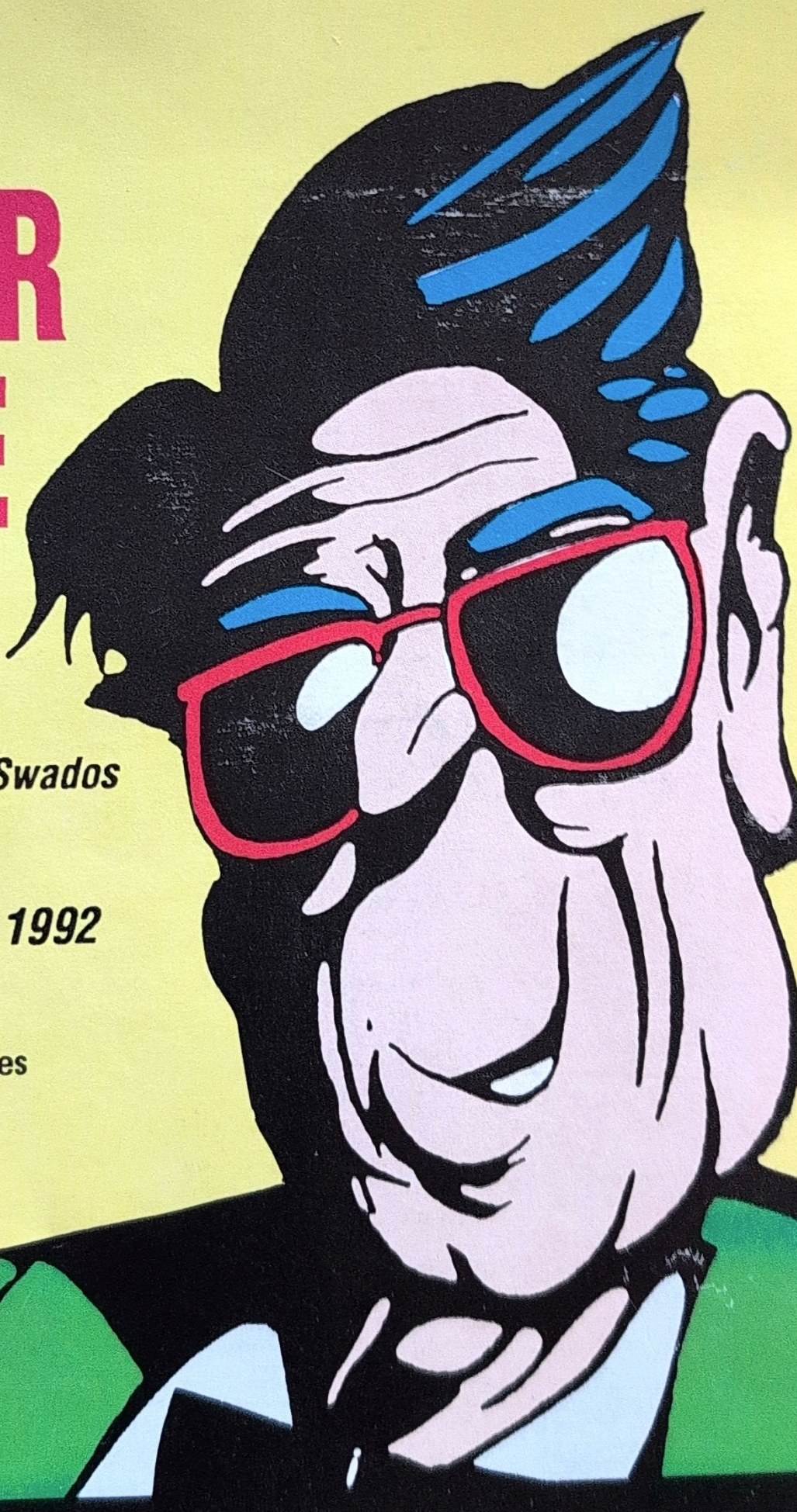

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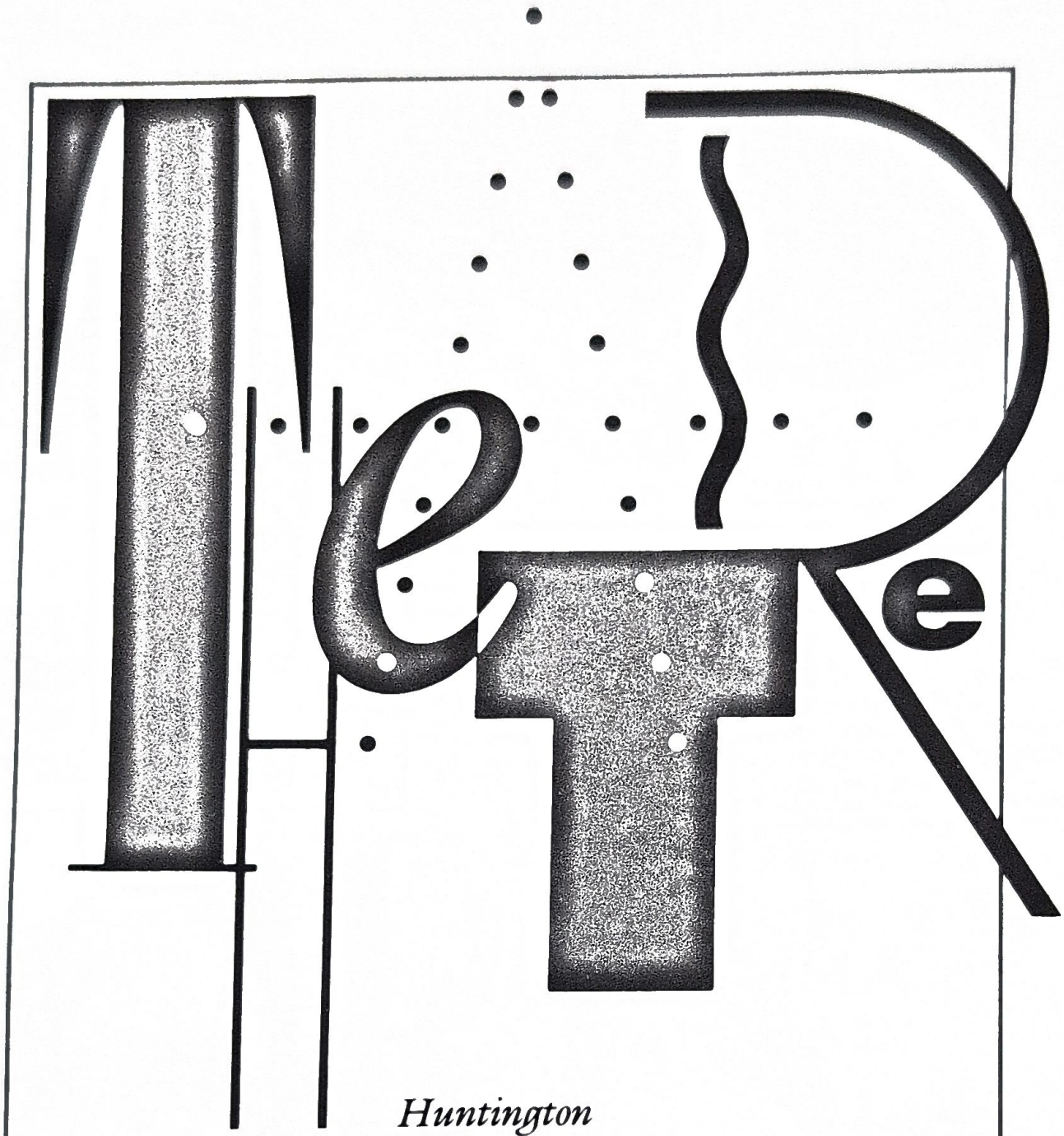

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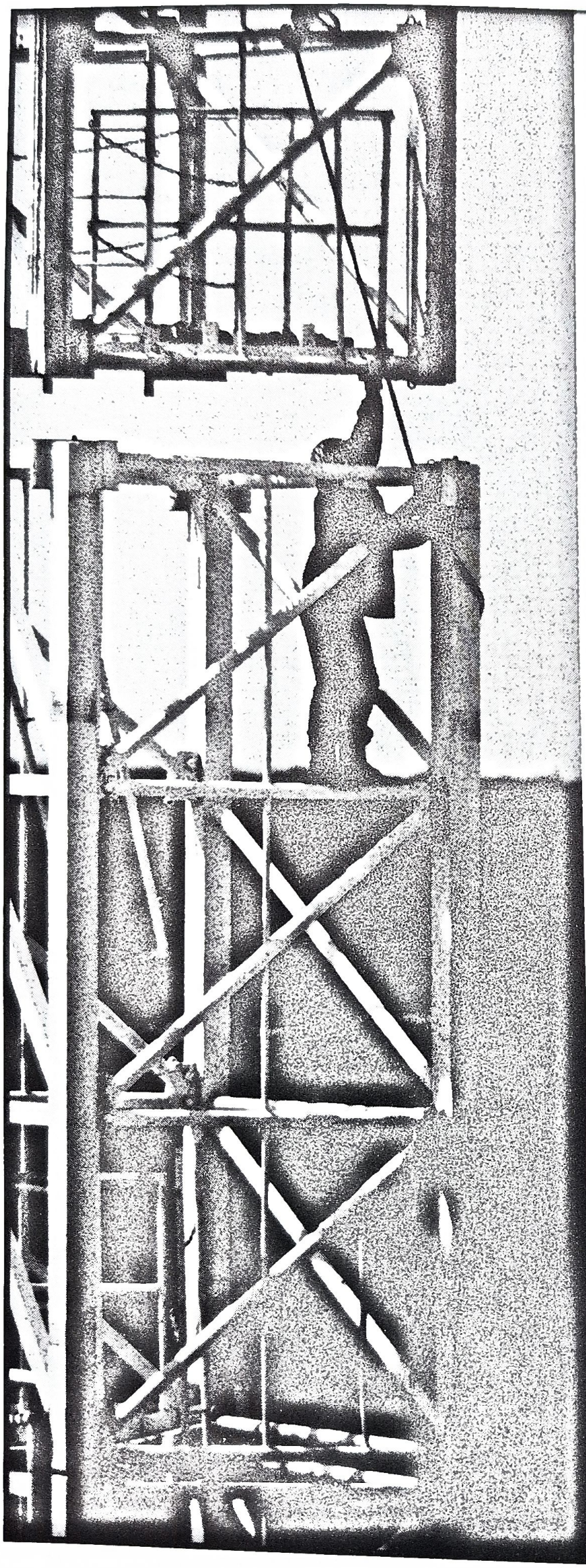

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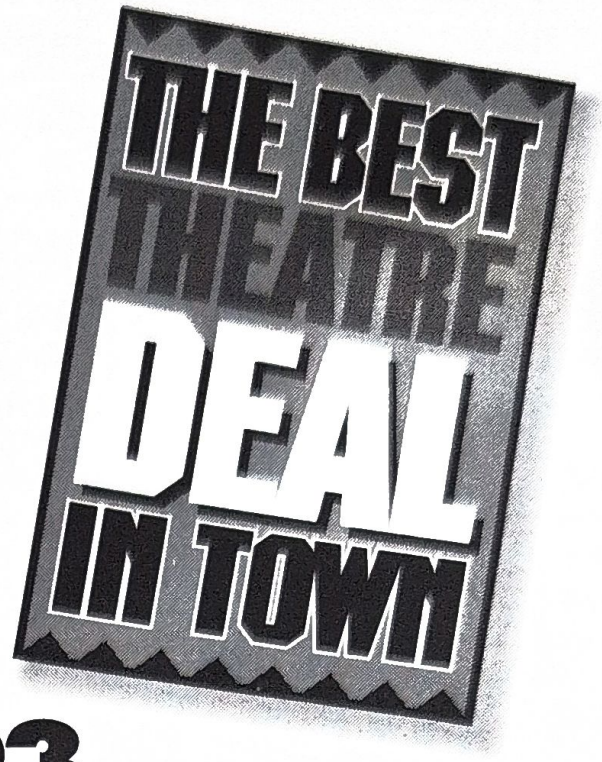

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Macbush
by Robert A. Anderson
The OSU Theatre Company
October 21–24, 28–31,
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The Knight of the Burning Pestle
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Our Country's Good
by Timberlake Wertenbaker
February 10–13, 17–20, 24–27

Set in Sydney, Australia in 1788 at a British outpost populated by transported criminals, this play has abundant humor and sensibility.

5th of July
by Lanford Wilson
The OSU Theatre Company
February 24–27, March 2–6

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Trap Play
by Judi Ann Mason
The OSU Theatre Company
April 28–May 1, 5–8, 12–15

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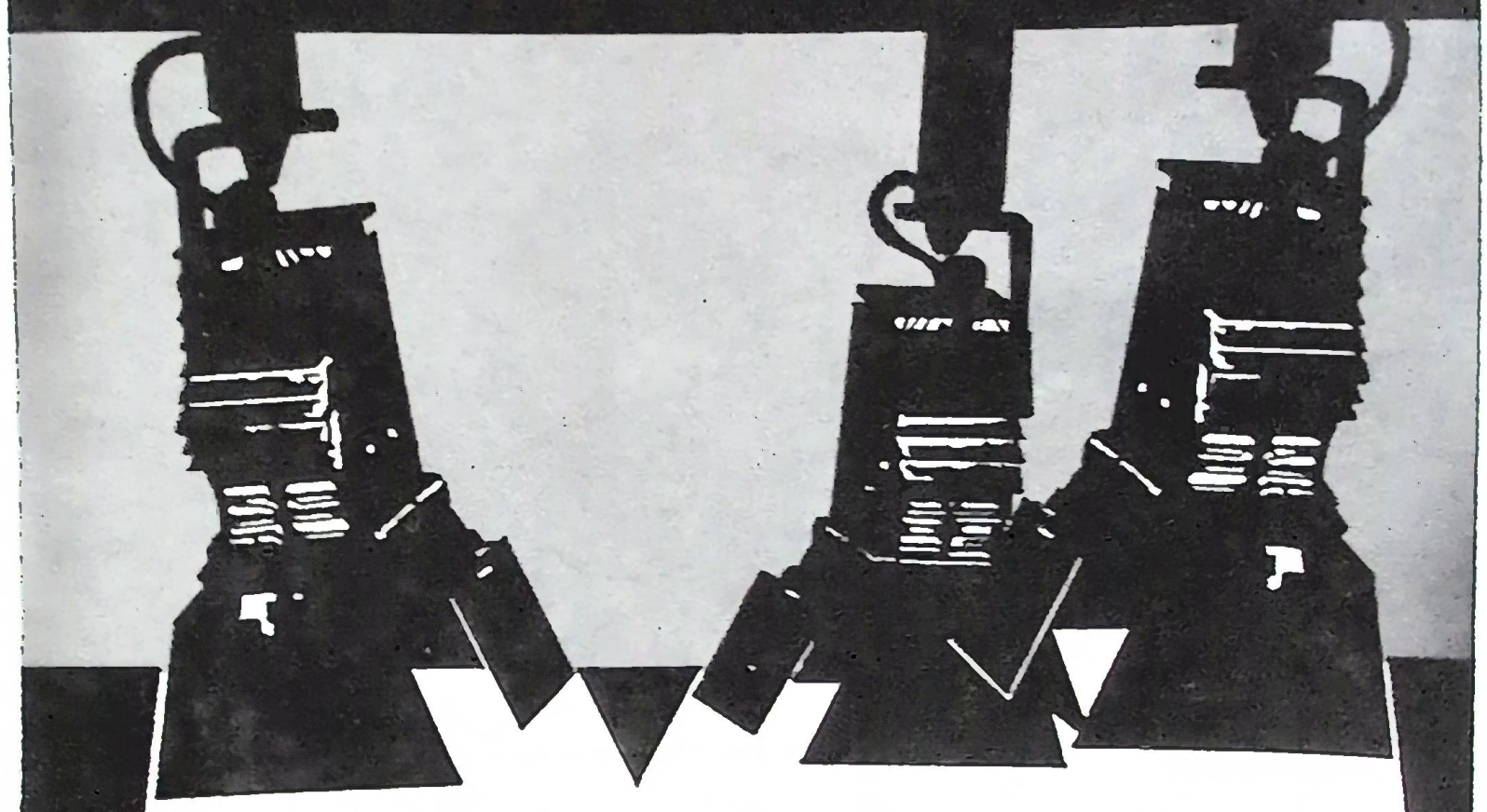

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RAP MASTER RONNIE

by Garry Trudeau with music by Elizabeth Swados

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Cast

Ted Amore
Linda Dorff
Stephen Smoot
Justin Olin Simons
Toni A. Tinsley
Elizabeth von Koschembahr (8/7 & 8/8)

Production Staff

Director.....Ionia Zelenka
Musical Director.....Gary Grundei
Choreographers.....Ted Amore & Helen Myers
Stage Manager.....Barbara A. Young
Assistant Stage Managers.....Elizabeth Clark and John P. Russell
Scenic Designer/Technical Director.....Philip Undercuffler
Lighting Designer.....Jack Kamer
Costume Designer.....Dana L. Miller
Dramaturg.....Ann C. Hall
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Songs for RAP MASTER RONNIE

ACT I

Rap Master Ronnie*.....Ensemble
Take That Smile Off Your Face.....Toni A. Tinsely
The Class of '86.....Ensemble
You're Not Ready.....Ted Amore and Linda Dorff
O,Grenada!.....Ensemble
Self-Made Man.....Ted Amore and Ensemble
9 to 12.....Ted Amore, Stephen Smoot and Toni A. Tinsely
What I Know.....Justin Olin Simons and Ensemble
Counting*.....Linda Dorff and Ensemble

ACT II

The Moral Majority.....Ensemble
One More Study..Justin Olin Simons, Stephen Smoot and Toni A. Tinsely
Facts.....Toni A. Tinsely
Victims.....Stephen Smoot
Thinking the Unthinkable.....Linda Dorff and Ensemble
Something For Nothing.....Ensemble

***Choreographed by Helen Myers**

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CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN THEATRE COMPANY BIOGRAPHIES

Ted Amore (Choreographer/Ensemble) has appeared in CATCO's SOLO SHORTS, LIFE AND LIMB, END OF THE WORLD and THE BAT. Ted has also appeared in Spotlight Dinner Theatre's BIG RIVER; Gallery Players' GEORGE M; and Players Theatre Columbus' GYPSY, HARRIGAN AND HART, EVITA, and COUNTRY CHRISTMAS CAROL.

Elizabeth Clark (Assistant Stage Manager) has worked backstage on CATCO's SECOND ANNUAL SHORTS FESTIVAL, BEYOND THERAPY and GREATER TUNA and at Spotlight Dinner Theatre's SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM and BIG RIVER.

Linda Dorff (Ensemble) has appeared in CATCO's THE CLUB< 1959 PINK THUNDER-BIRD, LIE OF THE MIND,ON THE VERGE, BEYOND THERAPY, LAUGHING WILD and SECOND ANNUAL SHORTS FESTIVAL. At Players Theatre Columbus, she appeared as "Big Mama" in CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF.

Gary Grundei (Musical Director) is originally from Cincinnati and is currently working on his Bachelor of Music degree at OSU. His past work with OSU includes composing for THE MIKE HARDEN SHOW, RED NOSES, LITTLE VICTORIES and LYSISTRATA. He was the Music Director for OSU's OH, COWARD and CATCO's A THURBER CARNIVAL.

Ann C. Hall (Dramaturg) has been CATCO's dramaturg since 1991. She founded the Women's Playwriting Group and produced and co-authored the workshop production of WOMEN WHO KILL. Ann, who holds a Ph.D. in English from OSU, was an Assistant Professor at Marquette University.

Jack Kamer (Lighting Designer) has lit numerous CATCO productions including DIAL "M" FOR MURDER, SIZWE BANSI IS DEAD, SPEED-THE-PLOW, GREATER TUNA and A THURBER CARNIVAL. He has also designed for BalletMet and Players Theatre Columbus.

Helen Myers (Choreographer) has choreographed TIBETAN BOOK OF THE DEAD for Reality Theatre and MUSIC MAN for Actors Summer Theatre. Helen holds a Master of Fine Arts in dance from OSU.

Dana L. Miller (Costume Designer) has costumed CATCO's DIAL "M" FOR MURDER, AUDIENCE/FIRE IN THE BASEMENT, BEYOND THERAPY, FULL HOOK-UP and THE BAT. She appeared in CATCO's SECOND ANNUAL SHORTS FESTIVAL.

John P. Russell, Jr. (Assistant Stage Manager) studied theatre lighting at West Virginia Wesleyan College and carpentry at Eastland Career Center. John was an Assistant Stage Manager for CATCO's SECOND ANNUAL SHORTS FESTIVAL.

Justin Olin Simons (Ensemble) is CATCO's Box Office Manager. He appeared in Spotlight Dinner Theatre's BIG RIVER. An OSU theatre graduate, Justin has also acted in numerous childrens' theatre productions in Central Ohio. A Columbus native, Justin enjoys spending time with his five-year-old son, Jonah.

Stephen Smoot (Ensemble) recently completed a South American tour PORGY AND BESS with the Virginia Opera. He has performed with the Anchorage Opera, Opera/ Columbus and The Anchorage Symphony. He appeared in Gallery Players' PERSONALS and in Little Theatre Off Broadway's LITTLE SHOP HORRORS.

Toni A. Tinsely (Ensemble) has appeared in CATCO's A . . . MY NAME IS ALICE and SOLO SHORTS. Toni has appeared at Players Theatre Columbus in LITTLE SHOP OF

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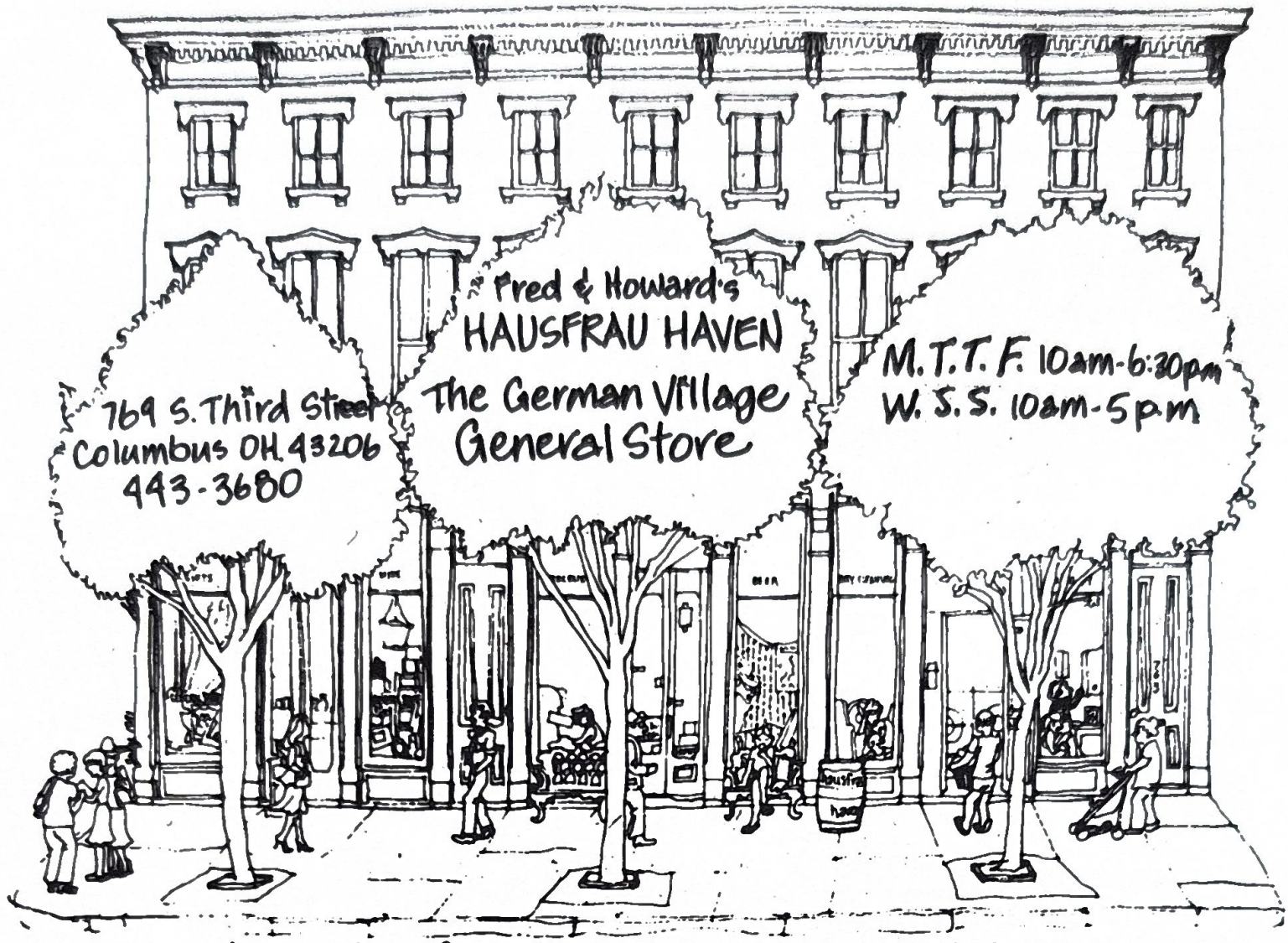

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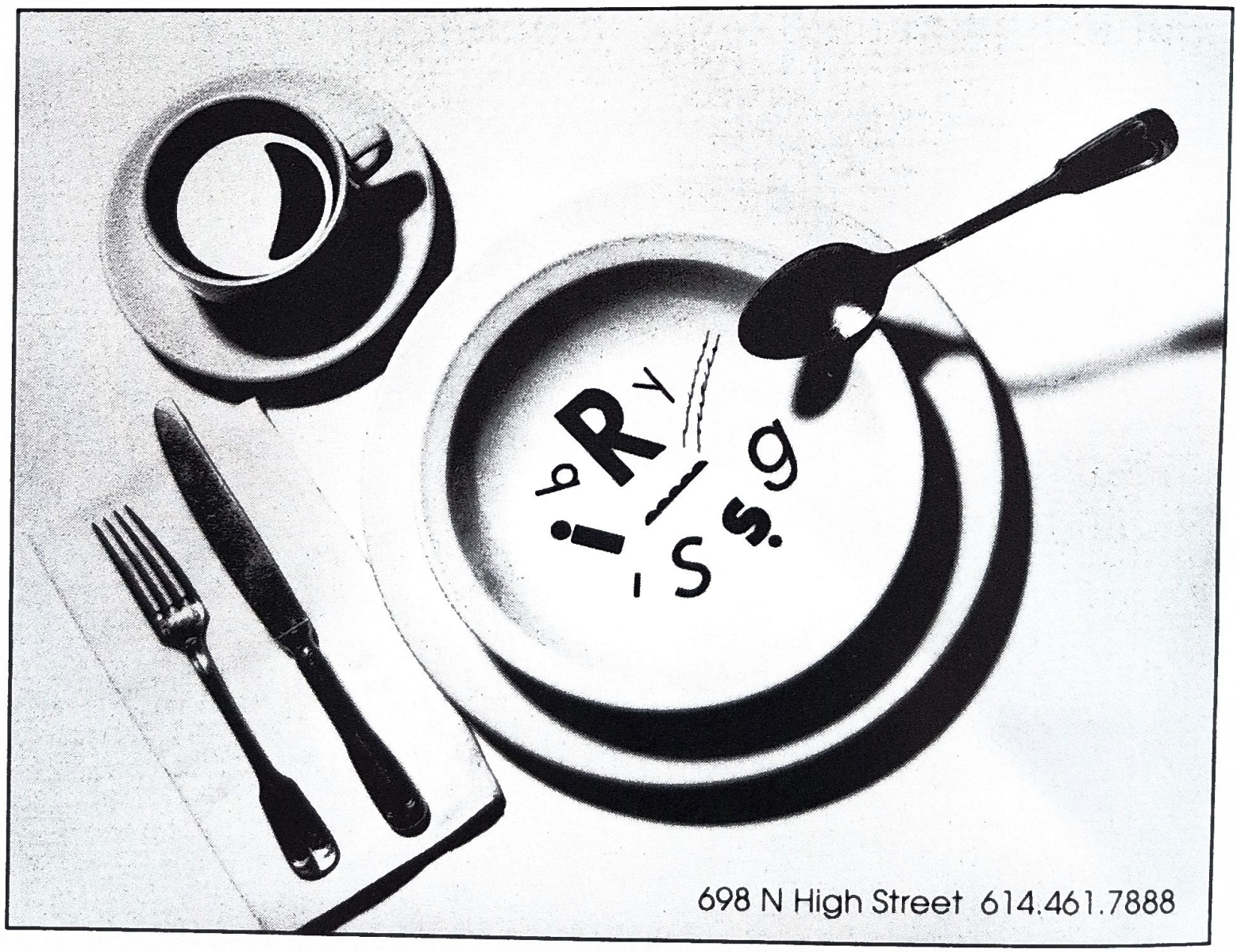

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Philip Undercuffler (Scenic Artist/Technical Director) is the charge scenic artist at the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. He has designed sets for CATCO's DIAL "M" FOR MURDER, SIZWE BANSI IS DEAD, A SHORTS FESTIVAL, BEYOND THERAPY and THE COLORED MUSEUM. Philip designed the set of FALL RIVER FOLLIES for Five Minds.

Elizabeth von Koschembahr (Ensemble 8/7 and 8/8) is one of CATCO's Special Events Coordinators and an active CATCO volunteer. At CATCO she was Stage Manager for SOLO SHORTS, Assistant Stage Manager for WINGS, and a dresser for GREATER TUNA. Elizabeth has acted at Columbus Junior Theatre in MR. SCROOGE and in Grove City.

Barbara A. Young (Stage Manager) stage managed CATCO's THE REVENGE OF THE SPACE PANDAS. Barb has stage managed for Gallery Players, Zivili!, Players Theatre Columbus, Weathervane Playhouse in Newark and King's Entertainment for King's Island. She is currently an English and journalism teacher for Columbus Public Schools.

Ionia Zelenka (Director) has directed in summer stock and in educational theatre for 38 years. After retiring from OSU, she joined CATCO where she has directed END OF THE WORLD, BEYOND THERAPY, AMERICAN BUFFALO, MYSTERY OF IRMA VEP, SIZWE BANSI IS DEAD and two of the plays in the SECOND ANNUAL SHORTS FESTIVAL.

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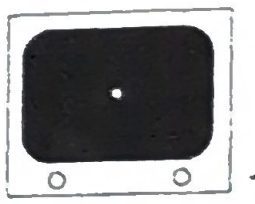

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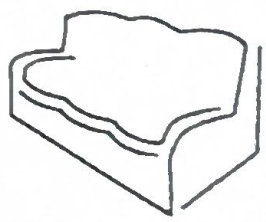

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Biography of Garry Trudeau

Garry Trudeau was born in New York City in 1948 and grew up in Saranac Lake, New York. His family was fairly wealthy and his career has caused some embarrassment to his mother, who moves in the same social circles as the Bush family. According to Trudeau, his mother warned him to "stay off Barbara and the children." Until the Neil Bush banking scandal, her son complied. Trudeau himself began writing plays at the age 7. At Yale, he turned to humor and cartoons. During his junior year, the Universal Press Syndicate asked him to create a cartoon strip for them; in October of 1970, DOONESBURY was born. In 1974, he won a Pulitzer, and later he married television newswoman Jane Pauley. In addition to RAP MASTER RONNIE, Trudeau has a written DOONESBURY (1983), a musical version of the comic strip.

--Ann C. Hall

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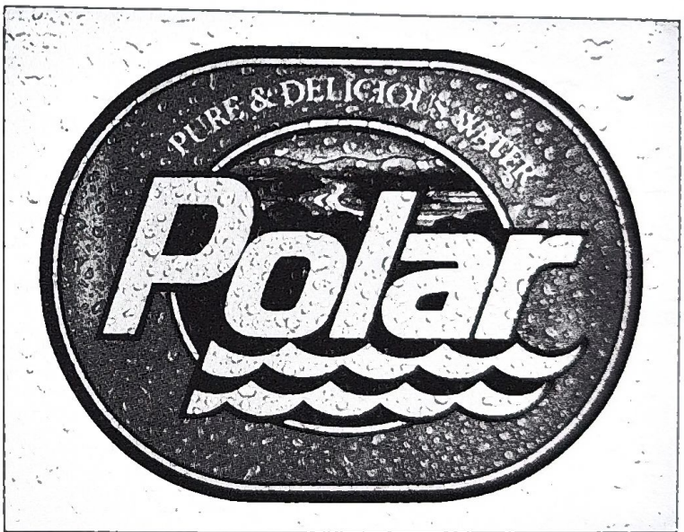

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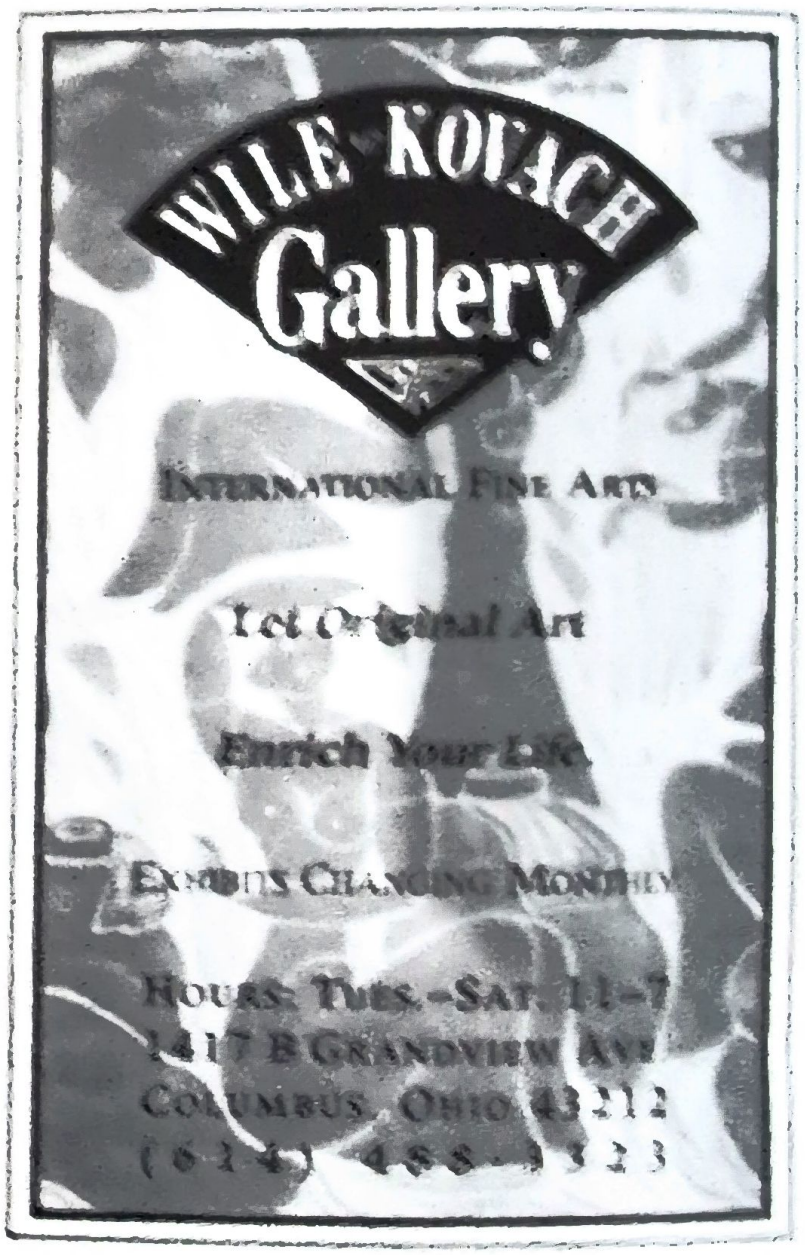

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What Does Trudeau Do When He's Not Doing Doonesbury?

According to Jonathan Alter of Newsweek, Garry Trudeau is "the premiere American political and social satirist of his time." He began drawing cartoons during his junior year at Yale, and one month later, he was approached by the Universal Press Syndicate to create a cartoon for them. In October of 1970, DOONESBURY was born and has since appeared in virtually every major newspaper across the country. (There are the exceptions, of course. Trudeau's series on Frank Sinatra's connection to the mob and his strip on anti-abortionists were both quickly dropped from many papers.) In 1974, he won a Pulitzer and later he married television newswoman Jane Pauley.

Much to his viewers surprise, however, in 1983, Trudeau decided to take a 21-month break. According to Trudeau "editors across the country were outraged that I could be so presumptuous as to take control of my own career." What was he up to? Ostensibly, he was taking the time to update his characters: in his words, to move from "draft beer and mixers to cocaine and herpes."

What he was really up to was theatre. Two days after drawing his last strip, he began working with Elizabeth Swados on a musical version of the strip, DOONESBURY. Trudeau explains that "Theatre was my earliest life's passion. I formed a theatre group at the ripe old age of 7. At first I wrote the shows. Then at 10 I decided it was time to stop doing amateurish pieces and get on with the real business of theatre. I sent away for the catalog of Samuel French plays, and I'll never forget the rush when my first package of plays arrived. I devoured them." Trudeau's sister says that Trudeau continued with this theatre group until he left for Yale University in 1965.

The musical DOONESBURY received mixed reviews, but Trudeau and Swados persevered and created RAP MASTER RONNIE. It began in 1984 as a 40-minute cabaret act at the Village Gate Theatre in New York, but it was later expanded to a full-length production which premiered at Los Angeles' Odyssey Theatre the same year but after the Reagan re-election. From there, as one critic put it, the play "spread like a commie conspiracy--to San Francisco, Chicago, and Washington, D.C."

Despite our current mania for talk shows, Garry Trudeau has never been on one. His reluctance to grant interviews is notorious--he's only agreed to a few, once to celebrate the twenty-year anniversary of DOONESBURY in Newsweek and once to "sell" RAP MASTER RONNIE to Chicago audiences. His experience with the television show TO TELL THE TRUTH in 1971 may explain his reluctance to get "up close and personal" with the media: three out of four panelists failed to identify him correctly, and he only won $167 and a pair of cuff links. Trudeau, however, did "tell the truth" about RAP MASTER RONNIE during one of these interviews. As he calls it, his one "dirty secret" is that RAP MASTER RONNIE was partially funded by NEA monies.

--Ann C. Hall